Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that the application as so amended receive an examination on the merits, and that the claims as now presented receive an early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Burton A. Amernick (24,852)

Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP

1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20036-3425

Telephone: 202-331-7111

Date: 8 -6-01

APPENDIX - MARKED UP VERSION

- 3. (Amended) The polymer dispersion according to claim 1 [or 2, characterized in that] wherein the film forming temperature of the polymer formed from the monomer mixture is from 10 to 50°[, preferably from 20 to 50°C].
- 4. (Amended) The polymer dispersion according to [any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that] <u>claim 1, wherein</u> the monomer mixture consists of from 40 to 70% of acrylates and from 30 to 60% of styrene.
- 5. (Amended) The polymer dispersion according to [any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that] <u>claim 1, wherein</u> it consists of

from 5 to 50%[, preferably from 5 to 40%] of starch,

from 0 to 19% of acrylonitrile,

from 10 to 60% of acrylates and

from 10 to 60% of styrene,

and water.

- 12. (Amended) The use of the polymer dispersion according to [any one of the claims from 1 to 7] <u>claim 1</u> in paper manufacture.
- 13. (Amended) the use of the polymer dispersion according to [any one of the claims from 1 to 7] claim 1 as a surface sizing additive for paper.
- 14. (Amended) The use of the polymer dispersion according to [any one of the claims from 1 to 7] claim 1 as a wet- and dry-strengthener for paper which is added to the wet end of the paper machine.

15. (Amended) The use of the polymer dispersion according to [any one of the claims from 1 to 7] <u>claim 1</u> as a pulp size.